

March 18, 1980

TO: The Under Secretary for Political Affairs

FROM: HA - Stephen E. Palmer, Acting *SES*

Afghan Asylum Applicants in the United States

Mrs. Ingrid Walter, Chairman of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies, sent a telegram to the Secretary on February 1 requesting the Department recommend to the Justice Department an expeditious procedure for processing all Afghan asylum requests. The basic idea has merit and had already been under consideration prior to Mrs. Walter's inquiry. However, there are problems regarding the blanket treatment of Afghan asylum requesters which need to be resolved prior to writing to INS.

Recommendation:

That you sign the proposed interim letter to Mrs. Walter.

Attachments:

1. Proposed reply.
2. Telegram from Mrs. Walter

Letter revised in p

Drafted: HA:LArthur:crh

Concurrences: HA:SEPalmer
NEA/PAB:RDLorton

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